

Message Text

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SUBJECT : INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF ARAB AND EUROPEAN
STATES BORDERING THE MEDITERRANEAN FOR ADOPTION
OF CONVENTION ON RECOGNITION OF STUDIES, DIPLOMAS,
AND DEGREES IN HIGHER EDUCATION, NICE, 13-17 DEC.76

1. CONFERENCE OPENED WITH ALGERIA, CYPRUS, EGYPT, SPAIN, FRANCE,
GREECE, ITALY, LIBYA, MOROCCO, MONACO, TUNISIA, TURKEY, AND
YUGOSLAVIA PARTICIPATING. FRG, HOLY SEE, PORTUGAL, US, PLU,
COUNCIL OF EUROPE, COMMISSION OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES, ALECSO,
AND CONCERNED UN AGENCIES AND NGOS AS OBSERVERS.

2. FRANCE ELECTED CHAIRMAN, EGYPT, YUGOSLAVIA VICE CHAIRMAN,
MOROCCO RAPPORTEUR. UNESCO REPRESENTATIVES ADG FOR EDUCATION,
TANGUIANE, OCHS, AND TRAPERO.

3. SIXTEEN MEMBERSTATES/AGENCIES SPOKE IN GENERAL DEBATE.
CONTENT WAS SUBSTANTIVE EXCEPT FOR YUGOSLAVIA COMMENT ON THE
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CONDEMNATION OF ISRAEL FOR ITS EDUCATION IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

AND EXCAVATIONS IN JERUSALEM AS PASSED AT THE 19TH GENERAL CONFERENCE. USDEL JUDGED THIS TO BE PLOY TO DEMONSTRATE YUGOSLAV CONCERN FOR ARAB STATES AND TO GAIN ARAB SUPPORT FOR YUGOSLAV POSITIONS AT SUBJECT CONFERENCE.

4. PARAGRAPH BY PARAGRAPH DEBATE ON CONVENTION FOLLOWED. FRANCE, ITALY AND YUGOSLAVIA ENTERED 25, 4 AND 4 AMENDMENTS RESPECTIVELY. FRANCE, ITALY, TUNISIA, EGYPT, TOOK LEAD. MOROCCO, YUGOSLAVIA, AND TURKEY ALSO PARTICIPATED HEAVILY. SPIRIT OF COLLABORATION AND COMPROMISE PREVAILED.

5. REVISED CONVENTION TEXT AND CONFERENCE WORKING PAPERS BEING FORWARDED TO DEPT VIA POUCH.

6. ART 3 PARA 1 ADOPTED WITH NO DISCUSSION. ART 3 PARA 2, ARTS 4 AND 5 ADOPTED WITH MINOR MODIFICATIONS.

7. US AND FRG STATED FOR THE RECORD THEIR RESERVATIONS SHOULD THIS CONVENTION BE USED AS DRAFT FOR FORTHCOMING EUROPEAN CONFERENCE. SECRETARIAT IS AWARE OF US AND FRG RESERVATIONS AND TRAPERO STATES HE WILL ATTEMPT TO HAVE ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE AVAILABLE FOR EUROPEAN CONFERENCE. USPERMDEL WILL FOLLOW UP WITH TRAPERO AS EUROPEAN CONFERENCE APPROACHES.

8. CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE DETERMINED THAT THREE NATIONS - FRANCE, EGYPT, AND YUGOSLAVIA ARE ELIGIBLE TO SIGN CONVENTION FRIDAY. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT OTHER PARTICIPANTS WILL STATE THEIR GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO SIGN.

9. PORTUGAL AND HOLY SEE INDICATED THEY HOPED TO BE ALLOWED TO JOIN LATER IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROCEDURES SET FORTH IN CONVENTION.

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